

# DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS P. O. BOX 4970 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019



REPLY TO

Construction-Operations Division Public Notice Number PN-IWW-215.

MAY 1 2 1997

## PUBLIC NOTICE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The District Engineer, Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has been working with the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) to develop sites suitable for placement of material dredged from the Intracoastal Waterway (IWW). FIND, being the local sponsor for the IWW, has prepared a Long-Range Dredged Material Management Plan for the IWW in St. Johns County. This Plan predicts the 50 year dredging requirements and identifies preferred sites for placement of material dredged from the IWW. These sites are referred to as Dredged Material Management Areas (DMMAs). Development of these DMMAs initially includes acquiring the lands necessary and obtaining the appropriate environmental clearances to use these The sites are then cleared and grubbed, graded if necessary, and fenced. In some circumstances, the uplands may be cleared and grubbed in advance of clearing and grubbing the wetlands on site. Wetlands impacted by the clearing and grubbing of the DMMAs will be mitigated, preferably on-site, but if not, on nearby property. Dikes with weir structures are then constructed when required or when funding becomes available. Material dredged from the IWW will be deposited into the DMMAs. After the material is dried out, it will be removed, thus recycling a valuable resource. This public notice includes all efforts to fully develop and operate two DMMAs in St. Johns County, designated SJ-20a and SJ-29 (Moses Creek and Guana River). See the attached location map and drawings showing the conceptual construction details.

The dike construction has been authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System, Storm Water General Permit pursuant to Section 402 of the Clean Water Act. Full compliance with the General Permit requires preparation of an Environmental Protection Plan and submittal with a Notice of Intent to construct.

If a Water Quality Certificate is required, an application will be forwarded to the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977. This Federal project is being evaluated and coordinated pursuant to 33 CFR 335 through 338.

Comments regarding the project should be submitted in writing to the District Engineer at the above address within 30 days from the date of this notice. Any person who has an interest which may be affected by the construction of this project may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the

District Engineer within 30 days of the date of this notice and must clearly set forth the interest which may be affected and the manner in which the interest may be affected by this activity.

If you have any questions concerning this public notice, you may contact Mr. Donald Fore of this office, telephone 904-232-3729.

WATERWAY & LOCATION: Intracoastal Waterway (IWW) Jacksonville to Miami, Florida (St. Johns County). Both sites are located west of the IWW in St. Johns County, as shown on the attached location map.

WORK & PURPOSE: The proposed work will be done in two phases. Phase one will be the routine clearing and grubbing and grading of SJ-20a and SJ-29. Grading of the sites may be required. Phase two will be the construction of the dikes. These dikes are detailed in the attached conceptual drawings, and their purpose is to retain the material dredged from the IWW.

<u>PROJECT AUTHORIZATION</u>: Intracoastal Waterway Jacksonville to Miami, Florida - House Document 740, 79<sup>th</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> Session, modified by Chief of Engineers Report 22 July 1960.

EVALUATION: A draft environmental assessment has been prepared to evaluate the impacts of the project. The draft environmental evaluation indicates that the proposed action would have no significant impact on the quality of the human environment and an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is not required. A final

determination will be made when all comments are reviewed. The appropriate NEPA documents will be made available upon request.

<u>APPLICABLE LAWS</u>: The following laws are, or may be, applicable to the review of the proposed disposal sites and to the activities affiliated with this Federal project:

- 1. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL 95-217) (33 U.S.C. 1344).
- 2. Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (PL 92-532) (33 U.S.C. 1413, 86 Stat. 1052).
- 3. Section 302 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (PL 92-532, 86 Stat. 1052).
- 4. The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190) (42 U.S.C. 4321-4347).
- 5. Sections 307(c) (1) and (2) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1456 (c)(1) and (2), 86 Stat. 1280).
- 6. The Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 472a et seq.).
- 7. The Migratory Marine Game-Fish Act of 1959 (16 U.S.C. 760c-760g).
- 8. The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958 (16 U.S.C. 661-666c).
- 9. The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (PL 93-205) 16 U.S.C.668aa-668cc-6, 87 Stat. 884).
- 10. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470, 80 Stat. 915).
- 11. Section 313 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 U.S.C. 1323, 82 Stat. 816).

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT: The proposal has been evaluated in accordance with the Florida Coastal Zone Management Act and was determined to be consistent with the goals and intent of the appropriate State statutes. This determination is based on the Preliminary Environmental Assessment and the Coastal Zone Consistency Determination. Full compliance will be achieved by issuance of the necessary permits from the State.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: Consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act has been conducted. Based on our evaluation a "No Effects" determination has been made for species listed as threatened or endangered pursuant to the Act.

OTHER IMPORTANT RESOURCES: Other important resources considered in the environmental assessment includes wetlands. Federal policy requires no net loss of wetland values. No wetlands will be impacted by the diked containment facility at SJ-20a. The SJ-29 site has one small isolated wetland (0.4 acres) that will be impacted. Because of its small size, mitigation for this wetland is not required. During dredging operations, placement of the inflow and discharge pipelines may temporarily impact some wetlands. Any mitigation required to offset these wetland impacts will be accomplished during final project design.

Another important resource considered in the environmental assessment is historical resources. It was determined that no significant archeological or historical resources would be affected by the construction and operation of SJ-20a and SJ-29. The State Historic Preservation Officer concurred with the Corps' determination.

EVALUATION FACTORS: All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs,

safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

<u>DISSEMINATION OF NOTICE</u>: You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have an interest in this matter.

COORDINATION: This notice is being sent to, and coordinated
with, the following agencies:

#### FEDERAL AGENCIES:

Federal Highway Administration, Room 2015, Tallahassee, FL Commanding Officer, 7th Coast Guard District, Miami, FL Regional Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Atlanta, GA Dir Atlantic Marine Center, Hydro Process Unit, Norfolk, VA N. M. F. S., Habitat Conservation Division, St Petersburg, FL Regional Hydrologist, NOAA, Nat. Weather Service, Fort Worth, TX N. M. F. S., Habitat Conservation Division, Panama City, FL Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Vero Beach, FL Postmaster, General Delivery, Jacksonville, FL Nat Park Service, Ft Caroline Nat Memorial, Jacksonville, FL Postmaster, General Delivery, Neptune Beach, Jacksonville, FL Postmaster, General Delivery, Jacksonville, FL Postmaster, General Delivery, Jax Beach, Jacksonville, FL District Chief, U.S. Geological Survey, WRD, Tallahassee, FL Office of Federal Activity, E.P.A. Office, Washington, D.C. U.S. Geological Survey, Spalding Woods Office, Norcross, GA Regional Director, National Park Service, SE Region, Atlanta, GA Federal Energy Regulations, Atlanta Regional Office, Atlanta, GA U.S. E.P.A. Fed Act, Branch NEPA Review, ENV Policy, Atlanta, GA N.O.A.A. National Oceanic Service (C-GC-2211), Rockville, MD., Commanding Officer, U.S. Coast Guard Base, Mayport, FL U.S. Dept of Interior, N.P.S., Atlanta, GA U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Safety Office, Jacksonville, FL

#### STATE AGENCIES:

Jacksonville City Council, Jacksonville, FL Mr Brett D. Moore, Dept of Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL Division of Solid Waste Management, Admin Assist, Fort Myers, FL Executive Director, F.I.N.D., Jupiter, FL Executive Director, Dept Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, T Champeau, Lakeland, FL Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, FL Director Div of Archives, History & Records, Tallahassee, FL State Historic Pres. Officer, Div of Hist. Res., Tallahassee, FL Office of Environment DOT, Tallahassee, FL Off of The Secty, DNR Environmental Regulation, Tallahassee, FL Planning Manager of Submerged Lands DP, Tallahassee, FL Soil Conservation Service, Gainesville, FL Florida Times Union, City Editor, Jacksonville, FL Florida Office of Entomology, William R. Opp, Jacksonville, FL Florida Dept of Nat Resources, Div of Beaches, Tallahassee, FL Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, Vero Beach, FL Department of Transportation, User Statistics, Tallahassee, FL Lucy Beebe, Fernandina News Leader, Fernandina Beach, FL Florida D.E.P., Office of Aquatic Preserves, Jacksonville, FL Board of County Commissioner, Pinellas County, Clearwater, FL Exec Dir, Florida Wildlife Federation, West Palm Beach, FL Lawton Chiles, Florida State Clearinghouse, Tallahassee, FL Captain Alan S. Richard, Florida Marine Patrol, Tallahassee, FL Bureau of State Planning, Div of Res Plan & Mgt, Tallahassee, FL

# **ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

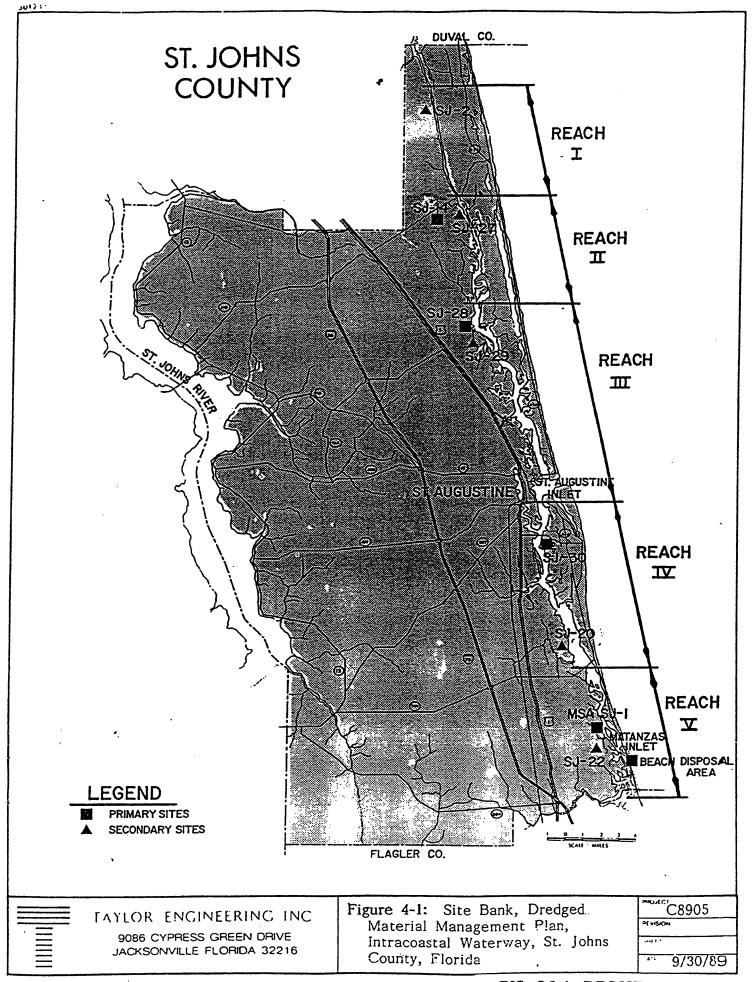
Executive Director, Florida Audubon Society, Casselberry, FL

## LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

Board of County Commissioners, St. Johns County, FL Florida Inland Navigation District, Jupiter, FL St. Augustine Port and Waterway Authority, FL City of St. Augustine, FL City of St. Augustine Beach, FL Anastasia State Recreation Area, FL

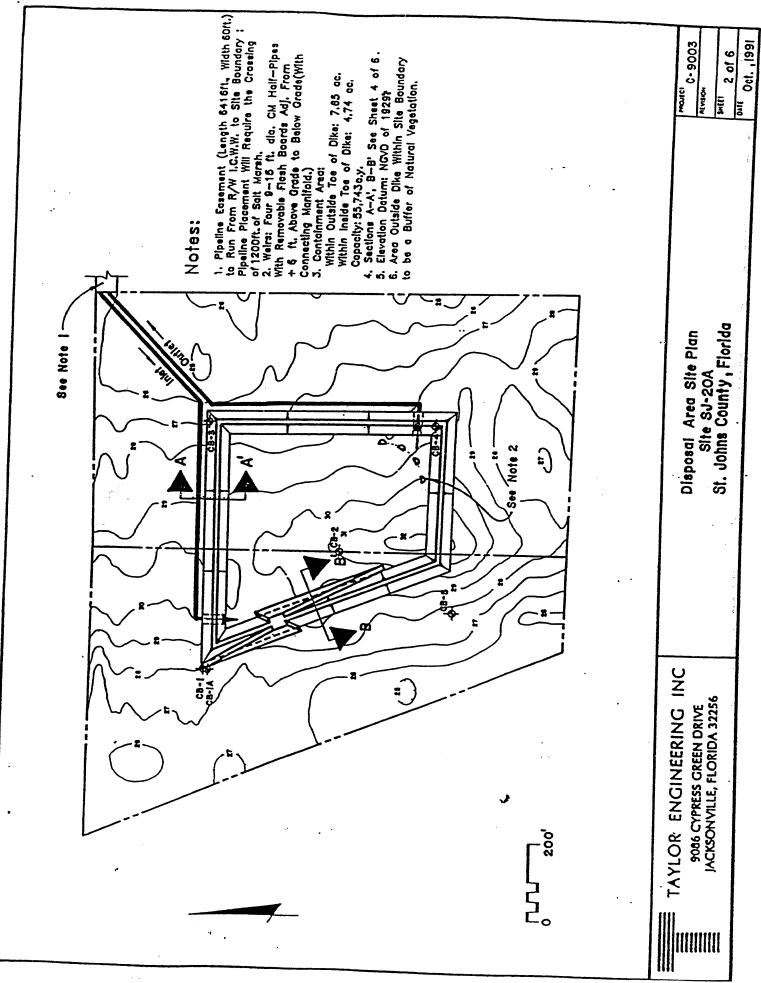
FOR THE COMMANDER:

Chief, Construction-Operations
Division



9086 CYPRESS GREEN DRIVE JACKSONVILLE FLORIDA 32216 Location of Dredged Material Disposal Site SJ-20A St. Johns County, Florida

l of 6 Oct. , 1991



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